



PRESS *release*

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Hit-Skip Accident Causes Extensive Damage

Summit Lake Community Center Closed

On Tuesday, January 3, 2012 at approximately 9 a.m., a car struck a utility pole at the corner of Lakeshore Boulevard and Kenmore Boulevard in Akron, Ohio. The vehicle left the scene of the accident, leaving behind extensive property damage.

Not only was the utility pole damaged, but City of Akron transformers were rendered inoperable causing an electricity outage to the Summit Lake Community Center. Currently, the Community Center is without heat and electricity, and the building is closed. Once the City learned of the incident, City crews arrived on site quickly and winterized the building to prevent interior damage.

“We are working very hard to replace the transformers in a timely manner so that our citizens can start using the Community Center again as soon as possible,” said Rick Merolla, Akron’s Service Director. “Replacing transformers is not a routine maintenance issue. Normally, large electrical transformers are replaced and maintained on a scheduled

basis. We don't keep spare transformers in our inventory. The usual lead time for purchasing a large transformer such as this is eight to ten weeks, and even used transformers can take up to six weeks to find and install. However, Akron citizens can rest assured that we are working as expeditiously as possible so that we can reopen in short order."

The City has also contacted First Energy, who is assisting in developing a solution that can be implemented quickly.

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